

Message Text

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63
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 /077 W
----- 034803

R 240850Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9678
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2894

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR KS SA
SUBJECT: ROK-SAUDI ARABIA RELATIONS

1. PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG-PIL WILL BE MAKING OFFICIAL VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AT THE BEGINNING OF MAY. HE ARRIVES JIDDA MAY 2, VISITS RIYADH MAY 3 AND DEPARTS MAY 5. PURPOSE OF VISIT WILL BE ESTABLISH TIES WITH NEW SAUDI KING AND HOPEFULLY SET STAGE FOR MAJOR SAUDI LOAN TO ROK. ROKG HAS IN PAST SENT LESS SENIOR OFFICIALS TO SAUDI ARABIA AND HOPES VISIT OF ITS NUMBER TWO MAN WILL MAKE SUFFICIENT IMPRESSION ON SAUDIS.

2. IN LATE MARCH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR CH'OE KYU-HA VISITED SAUDI ARABIA MEETING WITH THEN KING FAISAL AS WELL AS PRINCES KHALID AND FAID. CH'OE TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT FAISAL BEFORE HIS ASSASSINATION HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO ASSIST ROKG, GIVEN ITS STRONG ANTI-COMMUNIST VIEWS. CH'OE ALSO TALKED WITH KEY MINISTRY OFFICIALS ON SPECIFIC LOAN TO ROK. SAUDIS HAD SUGGESTED PROJECT LOANS OF UP TO TEN PER CENT OF ITS \$3 BILLION DEVELOPMENT FUND. HOWEVER ROKG SOUGHT EXCHANGE LOAN TO MEET CURRENT SHORT TERM FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROBLEMS. THIS PROBLEM NOT RESOLVED AND CH'OE ASSUMES NEGOTIATIONS WILL HAVE TO COMMENCE ANEW BECAUSE OF KING FAISAL'S ASSASSINATION.

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NATION.

3. CH'OE SAID HE ALSO TALKED TO YAMANI ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF LONG-TERM OIL SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH PROVISION FOR DEFERRED

PAYMENT. SUCH A CONTRACT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO
ROKG DURING CRITICAL 1975-76 PERIOD WHEN FOREIGN EXCHANGE
WOULD BE TIGHT. YAMANI EXPRESSED INTEREST BUT THERE
HAS BEEN NO FOLLOW-UP. CH'OE ASKED WHETHER THERE IS
ANY PRECEDENT FOR SUCH DEFERRED SUPPLY CONTRACTS.
FOR DEPARTMENT: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE ON
DEFERRED PAYMENT CONTRACTS DESCRIBED BY CH'OE.
FOR JIDDA: PRIMIN MAY GET IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY WHILE
IN SAUDI ARABIA. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY APPROPRIATE
ASSISTANCE THAT CAN BE GIVEN HIM.
SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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